TANAGRA TATAO.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Roſtrum conicum, acuminatum, emarginatum, baſi ſubtrigonum, apice declive.
Lin. Syſt. Nat. p. 313.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS.

TANAGRA violacea, dorſo nigro, uropygio fulvo, capite viridi, pectore aliſque violaceis.
Lin. Syſt. Nat. p. 315.

Neſcio an hac plumas habeat aliqua avis ſplendidiores. Poſſunt ſane Trochili, aliarumque nonnullarum colores, ſigillatim inſpecti magis niteſcere; vix tamen alii avi obtigit tanta lucidarum plumarum varietas. Guianum incolit in America Auſtrali pulcherrima hæc avicula. Fæminæ et pullis pallidior eſt color; fit etiam interdum ut avis adulta differat paulum colore alia ab alia. Cantu plane caret; quod illi cum multis aliis regiones calidiores incolentibus commune eſt: dicamus igitur cum elegantiſſimo ſabularum ſcriptore, '*Si vocem haberes nulla prior ales foret.*'

B

THE

PARADISE TANAGRA.

Generic Character.

Bill conical, acuminated, a little inclining towards the point, upper mandible ſlightly ridged, and notched near the end.

Linnæus and *Pennant*.---Claſs, *Paſſeres*.

Specific Character.

VIOLACEOUS TANAGRA, with the back black, the rump orange, head green, breaſt and wings violet-blue.

Lin. Syſt. Nat. p.

Le SEPTICOLOR.

Buff. Oiſ. vol. IV. p. 279. pl. 13.

TITMOUSE of PARADISE.

Edw. pl. 349.

It may be doubted whether in the whole feathered tribe there exiſts a bird of gayer plumage than this. In the Humming-birds and ſome others, there are indeed ſtill more vivid hues, if ſingly conſidered; but ſcarce any bird yet known diſplays ſuch a combination of lively colours. This ſplendid little creature is an inhabitant of Guiana in South America. The female is ſomewhat leſs brilliant in colour, as is alſo the caſe with

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with thoſe which have not yet attained their full age; it likewiſe happens that ſome ſlight varieties occaſionally take place in the colours of the full-grown birds. Like many of the gay birds of the hotter climates, it is deſtitute of ſong. In the words of the elegant fabuliſt, we may apply to it, '*Si vocem haberes, nulla prior ales foret.*'